



Hispanic Technology & Telecommunications Partnership

Advancing Access to Broadband Technologies for Unserved and Underserved Communities

HTTP Members

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ASPIRA Association

*Association for the Advancement of
Mexican Americans*

*Cuban American National
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Dialogue on Diversity

Hispanic Federation

Hispanic Information Television Network

*Interamerican College of Physicians and
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*Labor Council for Latin American
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U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce

U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Hispanic Technology and Telecommunications Partnership

90 Pennsylvania Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20003

T: (202) 503-HTTP

F: (202) 566-8285

Website: www.httponline.org

Jason A. Llorenz, Esq.
Executive Director

November 28, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, S.W.

Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Basic Service Tier Encryption; Compatibility Between
Cable Systems and Consumer Electronics Equipment*, MB Dkt.
No. 11-169, PP Dkt. No. 00-67.

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners Copps, McDowell,
and Clyburn:

We write to support the FCC's proposal to permit cable operators to encrypt the basic service tier on all-digital systems. The proposed rule changes to allow encryption along with reasonable transition measures for subscribers who need additional equipment will produce meaningful benefits for Latino consumers.

The conversion to all-digital television delivers many benefits to consumers. If encryption is permitted in these systems, customers will not have to wait for service activation or deactivation appointments, and installation costs will be decreased – which, we hope, could result in lower costs to subscribers. More convenient activation and deactivation will make it easier for consumers to order or cancel their service. And fewer required home visits by cable technicians also means less traffic and less pollution on our already-crowded streets.

We understand that Cablevision is already successfully implementing this model in New York City. We urge the FCC to adopt the proposed rules expeditiously so that consumers across the country can realize similar benefits.

As in the past, HTTP encourages the Commission to carefully analyze the needs of Latino communities – including needed investments in community education and outreach to be made in this transition. Latino-serving community-based organizations must play a central role in any such educational endeavor.

HTTP also reminds the Commission of the need for inclusion of minority-serving programming in the basic tier of channels – a goal that remains to be addressed, and that we hope the Commission will take steps to rectify in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Llorenz", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jason A. Llorenz, Esq.
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